

UNCLASSIFIED Department of State

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TELEGRAM

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STATE 321082

INFO OCT-82 ADS-00 OCS-06 SS-15 CA-01 FPT-01 SY-05
L-03 SIL-01 LAB-04 SSLG-02 /045 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:ECUEB/KON/MPH
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CA/000/EMR:LANGULO (SUBS)
C:PGALLIS (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL ARIV IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 321082

E.O. 12865: N/A

TAGS: CASC, IS, US

SUBJECT: BAYARD RUSTIN GROUP TO VISIT ISRAEL

REF: STATE 367269

1. BAYARD RUSTIN'S OFFICE HAS ADVISED NEA/IAI THAT RUSTIN AND A GROUP OF BLACK AMERICAN LEADERS NOW PLAN TO VISIT ISRAEL JANUARY 17 - 26. PURPOSE OF VISIT REMAINS TO LOOK INTO THE STATUS AND SITUATION OF THE BLACK HEBREW COMMUNITY, AND TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH EMBASSY AND GOI OFFICIALS. AS PRESENTLY PLANNED, THE GROUP WILL CONSIST OF:

BAYARD RUSTIN, DIRECTOR, A. PHILLIP RANDOLPH INSTITUTE;
FRED O'NEAL, VICE PRESIDENT, AFL/CIO;
ALEXANDER JOE ALLEN, AIDE TO VERNON JORDAN, PRESIDENT OF URBAN LEAGUE;
LOUIS CARTER, NATIONAL LABOR DIRECTOR, NAACP;
MS. MARIAN LOGAN, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR, NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY;
CHARLIE BLOOMSTEIN, CENTER FOR WAR AND PEACE STUDIES;
AND DR. ALEC L. BUFFKINS, OF THE NATIONAL CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR ISRAEL.
GROUP IS MAKING ITS OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS. DEPARTMENT

WILL ADVISE EXACT FLIGHT PLANS WHEN KNOWN, SO THAT EMBASSY CAN MEET AND ASSIST THE GROUP UPON ARRIVAL.

2. RUSTIN GROUP SEEKS APPOINTMENTS WITH AMBASSADOR AND EMBASSY STAFF, AND WITH FOLLOWING GOI OFFICIALS:

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN .
PRESIDENT NAVON,
INTERIOR MINISTER BURG,
MINISTER OF LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS KATZ, AND APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS FROM MFA -- WE SUGGEST KIMCHE, GAD RANON AND GIDEON SAGUY.

RUSTIN ASKS THAT EMBASSY MAKE THESE APPOINTMENTS. GROUP ALSO PLANS TO VISIT THE BLACK HEBREW COMMUNITY IN DIMONA. NEA/IAI HAS SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSY OFFICERS ACCOMPANY GROUP TO DIMONA AND ON APPOINTMENTS WITH GOI OFFICIALS, BUT RUSTIN'S OFFICE INDICATES GROUP HAS NOT YET DECIDED THIS QUESTION. GROUP ALSO WISHES TO MEET WITH LEADERS AT BAPTIST VILLAGE TO OBTAIN THEIR VIEWS, AND TO MEET WITH THE FALASHA COMMUNITY IN ISRAEL, TO OBTAIN AN IMPRESSION OF HOW ANOTHER BLACK GROUP IS GETTING ALONG IN ISRAELI SOCIETY. RUSTIN'S OFFICE UNDERSTANDS THAT FALASHAS ARE LIVING AS A SINGLE COMMUNITY, AND WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE A VISIT.

3. A BRIEFING FOR THE GROUP BY AMBASSADOR ASCENCIO IS BEING ARRANGED. RUSTIN'S OFFICE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS AND AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, AS WELL AS HISTORICUT OFFICIALS IN NEW YORK TO ALERT THOSE ORGANIZATIONS TO GROUP'S PLANS. DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO REVIEW PLANNING FOR THE TRIP WITH RUSTIN'S OFFICE, AND WILL KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED AS MORE DETAILS BECOME KNOWN.

4. RUSTIN'S OFFICE HAS ASKED FOR THE NAMES OF LEADERS AT BAPTIST VILLAGE WITH WHOM THEY MIGHT MEET. PLEASE ADVISE.

CHRISTOPHER

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDG/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>SL</u>	DATE <u>8/18/81</u>
RDS ☐ or XDC ☐ EXT. DATE	
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